

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: AMB. JOHNSON'S STATEMENT OF FEB. 10, 1976 (SALT TWO-902)

THE FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY AMB. JOHNSON
AT THE SALT TWO MEETING FOR FEB. 10, 1976.

STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JOHNSON

FEBRUARY 10, 1976

MR. MINISTER:

AT OUR MEETING ON DECEMBER 10, 1975, I PROPOSED THAT THE
AGREEMENT REACHED IN THE DRAFTING WORKING GROUP ON ARTICLE XIX
(FORMERLY ARTICLE XX) BE CONFIRMED BY THE CHIEFS OF DELEGATION
AD REFERENDUM TO GOVERNMENTS. AMONG OTHER THINGS, THIS ARTICLE
EMBODIES THE AGREED CONCEPT THAT SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE NEW
AGREEMENT NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE INTERIM
AGREEMENT ON CERTAIN MEASURES WITH RESPECT TO THE LIMITATION OF

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STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, AS AGREED BY THE PARTIES, SHALL BECOME

EFFECTIVE UPON ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE NEW AGREEMENT. THIS UNDERSTANDING SERVES TO EMPHASIZE THE SIGNIFICANCE EACH OF OUR GOVERNMENTS ATTACHES TO THE FURTHER LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC ARMS CONTAINED IN THE NEW AGREEMENT AND THE INTENTION OF EACH PROMPTLY TO IMPLEMENT THESE LIMITATIONS. DURING THIS INTERIM PERIOD, BOTH PARTIES WILL BE OBLIGATED TO ACT IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE NEW AGREEMENT.

THE OBLIGATION CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 1 OF ARTICLE XIX WILL REQUIRE THE PARTIES TO REACH AGREEMENT ON WHICH PROVISIONS WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE UPON EXCHANGE OF INSTRUMENTS OF APPROVAL. THIS IDENTIFICATION PROCESS CAN ONLY BE COMPLETED WHEN ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT ITSELF ARE FULLY KNOWN.

MR. MINISTER, THE SUBJECT OF EARLY ENTRY INTO FORCE OF PROVISIONS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE INTERIM AGREEMENT HAS BEEN EXTENSIVELY DISCUSSED. I HAVE NOTED THE IMPORTANCE OF IDENTIFYING AND RECORDING SUCH PROVISIONS AT THE TIME OF SIGNATURE OF THE NEW AGREEMENT. WE HAVE AGREED THIS SHOULD BE DONE IN A FORMAL DOCUMENT, WHICH WOULD BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE NEW AGREEMENT. ITS FORM SHOULD EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANT POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE UNDERSTANDING IT RECORDS.

I WAS PLEASED THAT THE SOVIET DELEGATION FOUND MERIT IN THE SUGGESTION THAT THE PROTOCOL FORMAT BE USED, AND WE HAVE TAKEN NOTE OF THE TEXT FOR SUCH A PROTOCOL THAT YOU INFORMALLY PROPOSED BE ASSOCIATED WITH ARTICLE XIX.

HAVING AGREED ON FORMAT, THE DELEGATIONS CAN TURN TO REACHING AGREEMENT ON THE WORDING OF THE PROTOCOL. SUCH AGREEMENT IS ACHIEVABLE IN ADVANCE OF DECIDING WHICH SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE PROTOCOL.

MR. MINISTER, I WOULD APPRECIATE HEARING YOUR VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT.

JOHNSON

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